

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-11 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 120745Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5196

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT YO

SUBJ: TITO SAYS PROBLEMS STILL EXIST IN CROATIAN-FEDERAL RELATIONS

REF: ZAGREB 7

1. DURING EXCHANGE OF TOASTS AT JAN 6 ZAGREB DINNER GIVEN BY CROATIAN OFFICIALDOM IN TITO'S HONOR (REFTEL, TITO MADE UNUSUALLY CANDID REFERENCE TO DIFFERENCES WHICH HAD EXISTED IN LEADERSHIP (I.E. CROATIAN EVENTS OF 1971-72) AND ADMITTED THAT PROBLEMS STILL EXISTED. "WE HAVE VARIOUS PROBLEMS WHICH EARLIER (NOT SO MUCH IN RECENT TIMES), ALTHOUGH THEY WERE SMALL, BECAME EVER LARGER, AND BECAUSE OF THIS THERE WERE NOT ENOUGH MUTUAL CONVERSATIONS. SUCH CONVERSATIONS MUST BE MORE NUMEROUS. WE MUST MEET MORE FREQUENTLY AND BE TOGETHER MORE OFTEN TO TALK AND STRENGTHEN MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING." NEARLY IDENTICAL HEADLINES IN MAJOR NEWSPAPERS STRESSED TITO'S WORDS "WE MUST ALWAYS THINK ABOUT THE ENTIRE SOCIETY, ABOUT THE INTERESTS OF SOCIETY AS A WHOLE."

2. COMMENT: TITO DID NOT IDENTIFY "SMALL PROBLEMS" STILL REMAINING IN CROATIAN-FEDERAL RELATIONSHIP, BUT MOST LIKELY HE WAS THINKING OF ECONOMIC, WHICH ARE BECOMING POLITICAL PROBLEMS. RECENT INTERVIEW OF LC KOSOVO LEADER
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MAHMUT BAKALI (BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY) IN WHICH

BAKALI USED SAME ARGUMENTS LDCS USE AGAINST DCS TO
PUSH KOSOVO'S INTERESTS IS CONCRETE EXAMPLE OF CURRENT
LEADERSHIP DIFFERENCES. SILBERMAN

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